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3542, 3543, 3544, 3545, 3546, 3547, 3548, 3549, 3550, 3551, 3552, 3553, 3554, 3555, 3556, 3557, 3558, 3559, 3560, 3561, 3562, 3563, 3564, 3565, 3566, 3567, 3568, 3569, 3570, 3571, 3572, 3573, 3574, 3575, 3576, 3577, 3578, 3579, 3580, 3581, 3582, 3583, 3584, 3585, 3586, 3587, 3588, 3589, 3590, 3591, 3592, 3593, 3594, 3595, 3596, 3597, 3598, 3599, 3600, 3601, 3602, 3603, 3604, 3605, 3606, 3607, 3608, 3609, 3610, 3611, 3612, 3613, 3614, 3615, 3616, 3617, 3618, 3619, 3620, 3621, 3622, 3623, 3624, 3625, 3626, 3627, 3628, 3629, 3630, 3631, 3632, 3633, 3634, 3635, 3636, 3637, 3638, 3639, 3640, 3641, 3642, 3643, 3644, 3645, 3646, 3647, 3648, 3649, 3650, 3651, 3652, 3653, 3654, 3655, 3656, 3657, 3658, 3659, 3660, 3661, 3662, 3663, 3664, 3665, 3666, 3667, 3668, 3669, 3670, 3671, 3672, 3673, 3674, 3675, 3676, 3677, 3678, 3679, 3680, 3681, 3

For the last few days, we have been receiving letters from the Chinese Navigation Company's steamer *Changchow*, as it was anticipated she would become a complete wreck, but her mails, passengers, and treasure were saved.

Mr. Gopal V. Joshee, the Maharatta Brahmin, whom we alluded a few nights ago as being an earnest advocate for the raising and educating of the women of India, will deliver a lecture on 'India, past and present,' in the Temperance Hall on Thursday evening. The lecture will commence at 8.15 p.m., and will be preceded and followed by the usual entertainment by the Royal Naval Temperance Society.

In another column we publish a description of the defences of Port Arthur. The particulars given are, we have every reason to believe, authentic. Port Arthur is the chief naval rendezvous of the Chinese, and no doubt possesses stronger defences than any other port in China. Mr. Colquhoun, who recently visited the port, states in a letter to the Times that if the French attack the place they will certainly be repulsed.

The agreement with the 'Wai-sing' lottery farmers in Canton is as follows:—The term is six years, and the sum total to be paid is \$3,800,000, namely:—

Deposits in advance.....	\$ 200,000
When the farming commences.....	600,000
After one month.....	500,000
At the end of first year.....	500,000
Annual payment for remaining 5 years at \$400,000	2,000,000
Total.....	\$ 3,800,000

Fun has rather a good joke on the Franco-Chinese trouble. An English patriot says to a fair French guest: 'Of course, Madame, during your visit to London you have seen our Health Exhibition, with its bands and all that?'

Fair French Guest: 'Ah, Oui. It is grand, so much; but those Chinese bands, now, they are horrible for me even with the most little ear of music. Alas! that, your Anglaise ought to say to my nation: "Thanks much for bombarding those barbarians"—there! Is it not so?'

This invitation to ladies in the Colony to become honorary members of the Choral Society, we understand, sent out yesterday. The practices of the Society should afford pleasant and instructive recreation in a colony where there is considerable dearth of amusement, to say nothing of the pleasure afforded the community generally by the performances of the Society. It is intended to put the cantata, 'Rose Maiden,' in rehearsal, with Messrs. O'Sullivan as conductor. There is a probability that Mr. G. P. Lammer, an able and well known local performer on the piano, will be the accompanist. Meanwhile, we are asked to state, that the Committee are now only waiting for the ladies to express their willingness to attend the practices, which will then be commenced immediately.

The adjourned enquiry concerning the death of Chow Amun, the man who was found hanging to a tree near Tai-ping-shan, on Sunday morning, was held this morning at the Magistrate by Mr. Wise, the Coroner, and a jury composed of Messrs. J. A. Xavier, A. Young, and H. T. Sissonson. The medical evidence went to prove that the deceased had died from strangulation, and a hawker named O'Connell, who lived next door to the deceased in Ng Kwai Lane, identified the body. Deceased had been seen by this witness at about 5 p.m. on Saturday, when he went out. The deceased man was a widower and opium smoker, and though not in debt, was very poor. Indian Constable 527 gave evidence as to finding the body of deceased hanging from the bough of a tree on a piece of waste ground above Tai-ping-shan at 6 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The jury returned a verdict of *felix de se*. It is doubtful if any English operative or dramatic company will visit Hongkong this winter. There is a 'Gaiety Company,' under the management of Mr. George Norville, now performing in India, and it may extend its travels to Hongkong. We are likely, however, to be visited in April by a French operative company now giving performances in Saigon. Signor Bergamaschi's Italian opera company will also during the ensuing spring visit Manila and Singapore, but it is not stated if it will come to Hongkong, although it is quite possible it may do so. There is, consequently, every prospect of this winter being an exceptionally dull season, so far as entertainments are concerned. The dullness will, we are happy to be able to state, be relieved in some measure by the efforts of our local musicians, professional and amateur. At the end of the present month Professor Vito, whose opening concert here was a great success, will give another entertainment of the same kind. He will be largely assisted by local amateurs—ladies and gentlemen. A novelty in the concert will be a grand overture on the pianoforte, for six hands, played by ladies.

The following telegram despatched by the Governor of Cochinchina, who is at present in the Cambodian capital, to General Buge, commander-in-chief of the French forces in Cochinchina, appears in the *Requisitoire*: 'I arrived on the 24th October at Phnompenh and the same day paid a visit to His Majesty Norodom, who, on the demand made of him in conformity with the

instructions of Government, has consented to the immediate application of all the clauses of the convention of the 17th June. He has been informed that all the clauses concerning the functions of the new protectorate will be arranged between the council of five ministers of the King and the Governor of Cochinchina. After several interviews devoted to the consideration and discussion of the new constitution, I have drawn up and signed, in the council of ministers, on the 27th October, two decisions relating to the political and judicial organisation of the Kingdom; and on the 28th Oct. two decisions relating to the abolition of slavery and the constitution of proprietorship.

These four decisions have been submitted to the King and were returned to me yesterday bearing the seal of the President of the Council. They contain the complete application of this convention and conform in their general lines, with some slight modification of details, drawn up with the common consent of the Cambodian ministers, to plans which I had previously laid before Parliament. Each of them bears the following notice:—'The Council of the Government of Cambodia, with the full consent of H. M. Norodom has authorized with the seal of the first minister the present decision.'

They will be published by decree, tomorrow, the 1st Nov. I proceed actually to the organisation of the province and municipality of Phnompenh.

The following is an extract from the last report presented to the shareholders of the 'South British Fire and Marine' Insurance Company of New Zealand, which has an Agent (Mr. A. Levy) in Hongkong:—

The Directors have the pleasure of placing before the shareholders the statement of accounts and balance-sheet for the year ended 31st August last. The income, including the balance brought forward from last year, is \$235,812 15s 11d; the general expenditure is \$212,066 12s 10d; the balance to credit to profit and loss account at the books was \$23,746 7s 1d, from which your directors recommended payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum (less interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid April last).

ADMIRAL AMÉDÉE ANATOLE PROSPER COURBET, the French Commander-in-Chief in China, is, it is interesting to know, something of an amphibian. In early life, intending to become a soldier, he entered the Ecole Polytechnique, where he distinguished himself; and it was not until he was four-and-twenty that, after it is said, reading a translation of one of M. de La Fayette's novels, he suddenly altered his mind and determined to become a sailor. He first served on the coast of Greece in 1852; and, in spite of his comparatively late start in life, he is now, at the age of fifty-seven, one of the youngest admirals in the French service. He does not dissent from his intimate friends that he is a division of the 'Nelson' of France. Foonchow, however, can scarcely be regarded as a Chinese 'Copenhagen'—St. James's Budget.

This Oxford Press is about to effect a revolution in the Book of Common Prayer. It proposes to issue a Sunday Service Book of the Church of England, the object of which is 'not to change a sentence or even syllable of any of the services; it will add nothing but perspicuity of form, it will substitute nothing but confusion of order; and, finally, it is anticipated that it will tend to popularise and utilise the Book of Common Prayer amongst the masses.'

SUPREME COURT.
IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.
(Before Mr. Geo. Phillips, Chief Justice; and Mr. J. Russell, Puisne Judge, sitting at the Full Court.)
Tuesday, Nov. 18.

YAU LOK AND OTHERS v. YEUNG, MOTION.
This morning the Attorney General (instructed by Messrs. Denny and Messop) moved, on behalf of the plaintiffs in this case, that judgment be entered in favour of the plaintiffs for the sum of \$2,238, and that the amount paid into Court by defendant. The Attorney General said that notice of motion, which had been sent to defendant, had originally been coupled with a statement of the grounds on which it was intended to support the motion, in the hope that defendant would arrange with plaintiffs to have the matter argued. Defendant, however, had declined to make an arrangement.

The Chief Justice said he understood the Attorney General was to ask for a day to be set down for the hearing of the motion. The only point reserved was as to whether or not plaintiffs were liable for more than the \$18,000 penalty fixed in the contract. In cases where a point was reserved for argument after a verdict had been given, the Court had the power to fix the date.

The Attorney General said he now came to obtain a rule nisi from the Court. This he was refused, and the question as to the penalty will come on for argument on Monday next, at 10 o'clock.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Puisne Judge.)
Tuesday, November 18.

TONG KWAN v. G. STANFIELD, \$103.10.
Plaintiff is a market compounder, carrying on business as Soy Shing, at No. 53, Central Market, and he claimed the above amount for provisions which he alleges he supplied to the Hotel de l'Univers during the first four days of May last. Mr. Messop, of Messrs. Denny and Messop, appeared for the plaintiff, and stated that his client had been in the habit of supplying goods to Mr. Stanfield, who was due him the sum claimed in the writ. He had frequently applied for payment but had always been told by Mr. Stanfield, as his Lordship knew, had now left the Colony, and the plaintiff was making an effort to recover payment of the debt. His Lordship said he did not know Mr. Stanfield was out of the Colony.

Mr. Goldring, the manager of the Hotel, who was in Court, said he appeared for Mr. Stanfield, who had left the Colony. He could prove that the debt was not due. His Lordship—What is your position? Mr. Goldring—Manager of the Hotel. Mr. Messop—I object to this gentleman appearing unless he has written authority from the defendant, as required under the Code. I don't know who he is, except what he has stated.

His Lordship—Where is Mr. Stanfield? Mr. Goldring—I don't know where he is, nor when he is likely to return. His Lordship—What should I adjourn the case for then, if you don't know where he is? Mr. Goldring—To get an attorney or solicitor to appear for him. If you can adjourn the case for a week, we may get instructions from him.

His Lordship—This sum is a small one. If you can pay the money into Court, I will let it go over.

Mr. Goldring—No, I cannot pay the money.

His Lordship—It is only \$103.

Mr. Goldring—I have not that sum to pay. The goods in the Hotel have been seized under a bill of sale.

His Lordship—An application for time, in a case of this kind must be simply to avoid judgment. (To Mr. Messop.) If everything is seized, what is the good of you proceeding to judgment. If there is nothing to be got, you may save your costs of judgment.

Mr. Messop—There may be something left. I know the goods have been seized under a bill of sale, but my client is only taking his chance.

Plaintiff was then put into the box, and produced one Chinese, showing the articles he alleges he supplied, as well as the price. The book in English was written up from the Chinese one by his accountant. The goods were supplied to Mr. Akum and Akum. The account was settled up to the end of April. Plaintiff's accountant said the book in English was shown to Mr. Stanfield.

Mr. Goldring produced a pass-book, showing the account settled up to the end of April. He also stated that Mrs. Stein, finding there was something going on between the Hotel and the compounder, gave orders to stop dealing with plaintiff at the end of April, and that he could produce a book to show the cook was paid every morning from the 1st May for the provisions supplied to the Hotel.

His Lordship could not entertain Mr. Goldring's statement, and was of opinion that the witness he was to call could not say the goods were not supplied by plaintiff. He, therefore, entered judgment for plaintiff with costs.

IF APPEAL v. S. D. BAMEY, \$78.
MR. V. H. DEASON, of Messrs. Breton, Wotton and Deason, represented defendant. Plaintiff stated that he was a soy dealer carrying on business as the Ta Cheung in Middle Street, near the Gas Works. On the morning of the 5th instant, he left his shop and returned in the afternoon, and found that 220 catties of condiments (preserved beans), valued at 5 cents a catty, had been destroyed, along with two big jars in which they were packed. He also found that three jars and five basins, containing 440 catties of soy, worth 10 cents a catty, had been destroyed. Two vegetable jars and a common jar were also smashed. His 'foke' told him these articles were destroyed by defendant.

In cross-examination, plaintiff said the jars broken and the soy destroyed were behind his shop. First class soy cost ten cents a catty, second class from five to six cents, and third class three cents. His soy was of the best kind.

So Asseng said he was a friend of the plaintiff, and that he saw him on the morning of the 5th instant. About half past ten on the morning of the 5th November, defendant went into plaintiff's shop, and smashed ten jars, with a piece of iron which he took from a scale in plaintiff's yard. Defendant did not say anything at all. He saw the soy, and took 10 cents a catty because he had sold one catty to the Hap Ki at that price.

This concluded the case for the plaintiff. Mr. Deason, in stating the case for the defence, said that defendant has lived at the works for many years past; that the place, opposite the works, has been, for a long time, a nuisance of a very serious nature; that from the stench and abominable smells which came out of it, he has suffered very much; that on the night of the 4th and morning of the 5th instant, he was so intolerant that he had to close his windows, that he never slept that night, that the smell was such that he actually vomited, that he went in the morning, about seven o'clock or half-past seven, across to the yard, and saw the stench, and the soy destroyed. He did not undoubtedly destroy some jars. He was suffering from want of sleep and sickness, and in his rage, he did undoubtedly do what he ought not to have done. There was no question about it, he should not have taken the law into his own hands. He then reported the matter to the Government Inspector of Nuisance, who went down there, and found the nuisance was of such a nature that he ordered the abominations to be removed, and the place was now better. The only point in the case was as to the value of the damage done. Defendant would tell his Lordship there were only three jars broken, and he (Mr. Deason) would show the value of the soy, from the evidence of Mr. Orley, Inspector of Markets; and that the jars broken and the soy destroyed were behind his shop. He got up and dressed and went out and looked round and went down to the shore but could see no one there. He went back and looking up the hillside he saw two men, in the moonlight, about 100 changes from his house. He then went back to his house, and at 6 in the morning went to his work. The same day while at work he heard that they had murdered the man whom he saw beaten the previous evening. Last Tuesday a constable came to the Refinery and called him as a witness. He did not know who the man was, but he told about having released the man, there were so many of them. The place where the man was tied up was not far from his relation's house.

The people who were beating the man in the night, he could not say. He did not know if they lived in the village. He was a Hakka. He had heard of the On Toy Society but did not belong to it. He was quite certain he could not identify any of the men who were beating the man, nor could he identify the woman who was pointed out as the woman with whom the man had committed adultery. When he was the name of the relative with whom he stopped; she was a widow. He did not

know the family of Li, living in the village; he knew there were some of that name.

When the man who was beaten ran away he ran toward the shore. He did not try to stop the pursuit of the man as he would not take any more trouble. The house outside which the woman was standing had a few places attached to it, but he did not know who lived there. He did not know a man named Li Aehun.

Ngai Ayee, formerly a blacksmith, but at present engaged in collecting the sugar bags at the Sugar Refinery, said he resided in a method at Quarry Bay. On the evening of the 5th inst., after 9 o'clock, while in bed, he heard cries of 'thief.' He came out from his house and saw seven or eight men chasing one man. Witness joined in the chase and the man was seized by a watchman at the Sugar Refinery, and handed over to the seven or eight men from Tsat-tze-mui. They took him away towards Tsat-tze-mui and witness returned to his house. Two or three days after he heard that some people at Tsat-tze-mui had murdered some one. He knew one or two of the men who were chasing the man; one of them was Li Aehun and one Li A. Ng. They were not amongst the defendants; they were gone away. He knew some of the defendants. He knew the man who was running away by night, but did not know his name. He knew he was a cook. He heard him call out to the men when they took him away that he did not do it.

Cheung Asau, a stonecutter, living at Tsat-tze-mui, deposited on the morning of the 5th inst., he was in bed, about midnight, when he heard a noise of dogs barking. He got up and went outside to see what it was. He saw two men, one of whom had hold of a woman by the hair while the other stood at her side. The woman was the wife of Li Ching Sam. There were also six men who had a man prisoner with them, taking him to the hillside. Witness asked them why they arrested the man and they replied that he was a bad man and had committed adultery with Li Ching Sam's wife. He asked them to let the man go but they would not; they went up the hill, and witness went back to his house. He did not know any of the men except Li Ching Sam. When they passed his house he told the man not to take the man up the hillside as Li Ching Sam said they were going to kill him there. He did not see if they had any choppers with them. He did not see or hear the man come back, he went back to bed.

The case was at this stage remanded for one week.

(Before A. G. Wise, Esq.)
BRISING A WITNESS.

Li Apun, a coolie, was charged by Inspector Swanton with trying to bribe a witness in the case of the recent violent death of a man and woman at Tsat-tze-mui.

Tang Fat, P.C. 170, stated that on the 12th inst., he went to No. 4 Lok Street to make some enquiries. On the 15th he went again and concealed himself in one of the rooms. The defendant came in about 8 a.m., and witness heard him talk to Li Shun's wife. He was told her what to say in Court and also told her that she must not say what she was told, and that \$800 cash was being subscribed for her. Li Shun's mother asked for the money. The case was remanded for a week.

BLACKMAILERS.
Fung Ahuk, Ngai Ayee, and Ip Ayung, charged as salt smugglers, were charged with being rogues and vagabonds, at British Kowloon. The defendants paid a visit to a fishing junk early yesterday morning, and demanded a sum of \$4 from the master of the junk, *Wai Wo Shun*. On the failure of the master to comply, they threatened to burn the junk, and they simply told him he must pay up or they would not let the boat go to sea without them.

Two of the defendants admitted their demand for money, and they were ordered to carry them home. All three were ordered to find two sureties of \$10 each for their good behaviour for three months, in default to be committed for three weeks.

LABOURERS.
Ip Asu and Lau Ayan, stonecutters, were convicted of stealing two boxes containing clothes and money to the value of \$112, belonging to a passenger on board the *S.S. Cyclops*, on the high seas on the 14th instant, and were sent to gaol for three months' hard labour each.

Tsang Ahung and Lau Ayan, coolies, were convicted of stealing \$5 in silver and a coat and trousers from a coolie recently arrived from abroad, and were sentenced to one month's hard labour each.

ROCKLESS USE OF FIREARMS.
Ng Ayun, a shop coolie, was charged with the reckless use of firearms on the 17th instant.

Mak Euk, the master of the *Kong Shen* junk, stated that defendant, who was yesterday a passenger on his junk, was in his cabin at about 10 a.m., and picked up a revolver, which was in the cabin, and while examining it the weapon went off by accident, the bullet striking witness in the thigh and also shooting another man's toes off.

Defendant was discharged, and the revolver confiscated.

The Defences of Port Arthur.
(Contributed by a Recent Visitor.)

Of the defences which the Chinese Government have been constructing round the Gulf of Pechili, Port Arthur is rapidly becoming the most important. It is only some two years ago since the spot was selected as the future Portsmouth of the Chinese navy. Before that it was only known to men-of-war as an ordinary anchorage ground of no great value, but by dint of labour the natural harbour has been supplemented by an inner basin, dug out of the mud, capable of holding a number of vessels of deep draught, while a series of forts have been and are still in the course of being erected which will soon make it one of the strongest positions on the coast of China.

If the French fleet, ever called upon for operations in the direction of Taku the first thing that will occupy their attention must be this stronghold, and, in view of this possible result, a few notes regarding the progress made there lately, may be of interest at the present time.

Firstly a word as regards its position. It is situated at the extreme end of the promontory which forms the eastern side of the Gulf of Pechili, and is almost opposite the treaty port of Chefoo, from which it is distant about 60 miles. The indentation in selecting it as the headquarters of

the northern squadron was no doubt the fact that it is open all through the winter, an advantage that would not attach to any spot round the northern end of the gulf, while, on the other hand, its position, at the narrowest part of the gulf, makes it well adapted as a sentinel or advance-guard of the defences of the capital. It commands the northern waters in such a way that an enemy operating there would be constantly open to attack from swift cruisers issuing from beneath its guns. Two such vessels the Chinese possess in the boats built by the Armstrong Company some two years ago, which carry two 25-ton guns each, and can steam 16 knots. These, if properly handled, might, while evading the French ironclads by their speed, play much mischief among their transports and supply ships. As a matter of precaution, therefore, it would be incumbent on the French commander, if he ever takes his fleet so far northwards, to destroy this fortress before going farther. He might, of course, attempt to block it by stationing a couple of ironclads outside, but these would be subject to constant attacks from the numerous torpedo boats which the Chinese possess, and, apart from that, the mere fact of shirking an assault would be a sort of moral victory to the Chinese, which the French can ill afford to allow them to claim.

Four or five months ago the French fleet would have had little difficulty in taking Port Arthur. It was defended then by only one fort on the top of a small hill, mounting 4 guns. But since the bombardment of Keelung the greatest energy has been displayed. Under the advice of certain German artillery officers, several subsidiary forts and earthworks have been thrown up, and at least 14 powerful guns are now in position, guns that is to say weighing from 6 to 18 tons each. They have also an ample supply of torpedoes and torpedo boats, as well as numerous Nordenfolds and Gatlings. The entrance to the harbour is further defended by the two swift cruisers above referred to, mounting 4 25-ton guns, and by two 'mosquito' boats carrying one 38-ton Armstrong each.

It will not be denied that this is a very formidable armament, and one which, if the Chinese do but stick to their guns, will give the French some little trouble. A new feature in the defence, if it comes to be a defence, will be the presence of foreigners. There are at the moment 6 foreigners in Port Arthur altogether, three Germans ashore and three Englishmen afloat, of whom two are marine engineers and one an instructor in seamanship. The Englishmen are, it is understood, not desirous of joining in the fight, and will probably retire before that begins. They ought, indeed, in that case to have done so long ago, but the German officers are said to be prepared to stand by their employers and chance it. How far they will be trusted with the conduct of the defence remains to be seen. Judging from past experience, one would be inclined to say not very far, but even in a subordinate capacity, the presence of two or three foreigners of pluck and energy might work wonders in animating and encouraging the resistance.

The number of Chinese troops on the ground cannot be ascertained exactly, but the common estimate puts them at not less than 10,000, while there are numerous camps at various points between that and Newchwang, from which the force might readily be augmented. It would seem, therefore, very certain that if the French ever go to Port Arthur they will find it the toughest piece of work they have as yet had to encounter, and the longer they are in going the tougher it will be. Large quantities of munitions of war are still being forwarded to Tientsin and the north.

The season is now too advanced for the French Fleet to undertake an advance northwards this year, and by the spring of next year considerable progress will no doubt have been made in still further strengthening the defences, especially those on the land side, which at present are weakest. Besides, Formosa is likely to give the French employment for some time to come. They might, indeed, occupy themselves to advantage during the winter in working out this problem. If Tamsui, with its two or three guns, cost them so many weeks to reduce, how many months will Port Arthur be likely to cost them? And they might also with advantage consider as a rider whether it would not be better to accept such terms as can be got rather than prolong the business farther. The truth appears to be that public sympathy has become considerably alienated from France lately, partly owing to the publication of the documents relating to the Langson attack, and partly owing to the feeble display before Tamsui. To a certain extent the cause of France was the cause of all Europe, that is, the cause of progress and civilization versus stagnation, but we have a right to expect that France, which has put herself forward as the champion of that cause, shall so conduct it that we shall not be ashamed of her. This I think she has already several times failed to do; and if things are conducted in the future in the same half-hearted way, she will fail again.

The time has now come when the French Government must make up their minds what they mean to do. If they mean to force the Chinese into submission to their terms at all costs then they should say so, and go ahead with it, or, if not, they should make such terms as can be got and be done with it. To play at making war as they have

been doing in Formosa, especially with such rocks ahead as Port Arthur, is simply to prolong the struggle indefinitely. The longer it goes on the more difficult it will be to get out of it with credit, and the more likely are the Chinese to be able ultimately to claim the victory.

THE FOURNIER MEMORANDUM.
Much question has taken place during the last two or three days on the matter of the memorandum signed on 17th May last at Tientsin by M. Fournier and Li Hung Chang. This really forms the key to the present unfortunate position, and extraordinary contradictions are presented in fact, Li and Fournier are entirely at issue, one averring that the measures were made, and the other that nothing of the sort was done. The *Journal des Débats* asked M. Fournier for an explanation, and received the following carefully letter, which is, of course, argument.

Paris, Oct. 7, 1884.
Sir,—Although you have thought fit to bring me into public notice is one of the recent issues of your paper, you doubtless do not expect that I should scatter broadcast in your journal, any note than in another, the word of an honourable man in the company of false-alleys executed by Li Hung-chang's secretaries. That word, which you appear to claim, I have had the honour to contest, and the keeping of the President of the Council, and that I am sufficient for my conscience. As for those persons whom this professional mode of proceeding, which was the only one left open to me, does not satisfy I hold the point of me wrong, their disposal. It has always been at the service of those who wanted it.—Receive, &c.

E. Fournier.
The *Temps* publishes the declaration forwarded by Captain Fournier to M. Ferry immediately on hearing of the false-alleys of the President of the Council, and that I am sufficient for my conscience. As for those persons whom this professional mode of proceeding, which was the only one left open to me, does not satisfy I hold the point of me wrong, their disposal. It has always been at the service of those who wanted it.—Receive, &c.

I affirm, upon my honour, that I neither altered nor cancelled, either by erasures or in any other way, any of the dates and stipulations of the note of May 17, handed to Li Hung-chang. I affirm that Li Hung-chang executed the telegrams inserted in the Yellow-book. I may add that I gave all possible publicity to the agreement concluded in this last interview. I reported it immediately to Admiral Lespès, who had to see the Victory on the very next day, and who, in his turn, telegraphed the same to the Yellow-book. I may add that I gave all possible publicity to the agreement concluded in this last interview. I reported it immediately to Admiral Lespès, who had to see the Victory on the very next day, and who, in his turn, telegraphed the same to the Yellow-book. I may add that I gave all possible publicity to the agreement concluded in this last interview. 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